



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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NEW FISH AND WILDLIFE ADVISORY GROUP TO MEET IN WASHINGTON

Assistant Secretary of the Interior Ross Leffler announced today that acceptances have been received from 24 persons invited to become members of a new Advisory Committee on Fish and Wildlife. The first meeting of the group will be held in Washington, D. C., on June 12 and 13.

Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton approved the establishment of the committee to give the Department the benefit of additional advice on the implementation of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 which became law last August. Among other things, this Act authorized the establishment of "a sound and comprehensive national policy with respect to fish and wildlife" and the reorganization of the Fish and Wildlife Service, which is now in process.

Officials of national associations in the wildlife conservation, sport fishing, and commercial fishing fields were invited to serve on the committee. They will serve as individuals and advisers rather than as representatives of their organizations.

This committee will serve a dual purpose, according to Assistant Secretary Leffler. It will enable interested persons to advise the Department on matters concerning fish and wildlife, and also afford the means of informing these persons of problems which confront the Department.

Appointees to the committee will serve for three-year terms ending June 30, 1960. Meetings will be held at least twice a year. At the first meeting the committee will be organized and a chairman and other necessary officers will be elected by the members.

Among the topics suggested for discussion at the first meeting are the possibility of protecting the polar bear from shooting in Alaskan waters beyond the three-mile limit, the status of oil and gas leasing on Fish and Wildlife Service refuge lands, the international fisheries situation, and the task force report on the Service's expanded conservation program.

Members of the new advisory committee are:

Dr. Ira N. Gabrielson, president, Wildlife Management Institute, Washington, D. C.; C. R. Gutermuth, secretary, Natural Resources Council, Washington, D. C.; Michael Hudoba, conservation director, Outdoor Writers Association of America, Washington, D. C.; Carl D. Shoemaker, conservation consultant, Washington, D. C.; Mrs. Marion T. Weaterford, chairman, Conservation of Natural Resources Department, General Federation of Women's Clubs, Arlington, Oreg.; John H. Baker, president, National Audubon Society, New York, N. Y.;

Howard Zahniser, executive secretary, The Wilderness Society, Washington, D. C.; Emanuel Fritz, University of California, Berkeley, Calif.; Sigurd F. Olson, president, National Parks Association, Ely, Minn.; J. W. Penfold, Izaak Walton League of America, Denver, Colo.; Ernest Swift, National Wildlife Federation, Washington, D. C.; Albert M. Day, Arctic Institute of North America, Washington, D. C.;

Richard Stroud, executive vice president, Sport Fishing Institute, Washington, D. C.; Charles E. Jackson, general manager, National Fisheries Institute, Washington, D. C.; Thomas Kimball, chairman, executive committee, International Association for Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners, Denver, Colo.; Richard Borden, Massachusetts Conservation Council, Boston, Mass.; William Apple, Outboard Motor Boat Club of America, Little Rock, Ark.; Don McKee, manager, Tampa Shrimp Producers Association, Inc., Tampa, Fla.;

Richard Reed, executive secretary, Maine Sardine Council, Augusta, Me.; Thomas D. Rice, executive secretary, Massachusetts Fisheries Association, Inc., Boston, Mass.; John Linehan, general manager, Seafood Producers Association, Inc., New Bedford, Mass.; George Steele, executive director, Fishery Products Division, National Cannery Association, Washington, D. C.; W. C. Arnold, Manager, Alaska Salmon Industries, Seattle, Wash.; and W. M. Chapman, director of research, American Tunaboat Association, San Diego, Calif.

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